

The Dordt Diamond

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Christmas Vacation Begins

The Challenge

Cliff Christians

"Science Will Not Save Us." This editorial is under examination this week. It is written by Norman Cousens, editor of the *Saturday Review*, and can be found in the December 14 issue of that magazine on page 20.

In essence, the author here attempts to prove that all the physicists, scientists, chemists, and mathematicians in the world can not save us from being squelched by Communistic domination. Rather, he says, it takes men who are filled with wisdom and vision, those who have a workable understanding of what is happening in the world today.

As Christians we can only take this article for what it is worth. The author here uses a purely secular approach as his answer for warding off the threat of Communism. We, looking at it from a Christian viewpoint, can go along with his reasoning as far as it goes, but we must proceed even further to find the basic, the fundamental answer to this dilemma.

Perhaps we could say, then, that America needs even more than men can offer. It needs something more solid, something more lasting, something more reliable. For us as Christians: God is our answer.

Cousin's ideas present themselves as an example of what is happening in America today. It could be said, from a non-Christian viewpoint, that this editorial is excellent, for it contains a pertinent answer to a difficult question. Yet, making use of our better knowledge, we find that it is sadly missing the mark, it is groping in the dark, even as all America.

Read this article and draw your own conclusion. See if you don't agree that: regarded as "terrific" in one light, it can be looked upon as a "flop" in another.

Classes Dismiss At 1:50, Friday Noon

Beginning December 19, students from Dordt College will be traveling to all parts of the nation. Some will enjoy a white Christmas in the far north, while others will be bathing themselves in the warmth of the California sun. But regardless of where we may go, let us pray for God's protecting hand over us so that we may all return to the halls of Dordt on January 7.

The first student to leave is Elinor Vander Veen who will be taking the train to her home town of Ripon, California. A carload of students will be leaving for the Pacific coast at three o'clock in the morning, Friday. These are: George Berkenpas, Ernest Benally, both from Gallup, New Mexico, John Grimmus from Dairy Valley City, California, Stephana Van Roekel and her guest, June Kooima, who will be going to Alameda, California. They are planning a non-stop 2,000 mile trip.

Turning her face to the Atlantic is Anita Bouma, who will be traveling to Sussex, New Jersey. For her it will be something new, as she has never seen her home, her parents moving there from Iowa about the time Dordt opened its doors. She'll travel by train for about 1,400 miles.

Six student will be travelling north to their home state of Wisconsin. Others to Minnesota and South Dakota. Several will be going to the southern part of Iowa and even Howard Faber will be going home, a walk of one block, and will be found down in the basement laboring over his research paper.

There are only three of the student body who will not spend Christmas at home. These are June Kooima, from Rock Valley, who will be in Alameda, California, Gertrude Swier,

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The Temper of the Times

Myrtle Sinkey

A few weeks ago the President, Mr. Eisenhower, suffered a slight brain occlusion or a little stroke, and for a few hours the people of the United States experienced turmoil of mind. During these few hours of misinformation and discontent the stock market declined and numerous fears and doubts were being expounded.

We all know the outcome of this slight stroke and that the President made an immediate recovery much to the delight of the whole world. Now he is attending the NATO "Summit" Conference in Paris.

But many people were wondering, during the President's illness, what would happen if the President should become disabled. Who would take over the President's many powers and duties. Would Mr. Nixon become the nation's leader? Would Sherman Adams, the assistant to the President and the behind the scenes man, who is believed by some to suggest almost all the President's decisions, and is considered by some to be the real powerhouse in the White House, become the nation's decisive leader with the President or Vice President only a mechanical go-between?

Many suggestions have been made as to the probable solution to the problem developing from a President's disability.

It has been suggested by some that we should change our own system of government and make it more on the order of the system of control used by the Dupont Corporation which has a board of nine directors among whom the numerous duties are divided. The President too has many many duties and with the in-

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COLLEGE DOUBLE-HEADER

Holiday Special

On the 27th of December, the doors of the Sioux Center Auditorium will swing open and into it will stream the people interested in seeing college basketball. What is the big occasion? A big double header is on deck. Calvin College will meet Augustana, and Dordt will meet Northwestern. The first game between Dordt and Northwestern will begin at 6:30 p.m., immediately followed by the Calvin-Augustana game. As I understand it, Calvin has some pretty big men. Among them are Tom Newhof, 6'9"; William Woltersdorf, 6'7"; Don Koopman, 6'6"; Vern De Vries, 6'4"; Ralph Honderd 6'4"; and Dave Vander Hill, 6'4". How's that for a tall team!

I hope that as many of you as possible will attend these two games. Tickets are on sale in the office. Reserved tickets are \$1.25 and the general admission tickets, on sale only at the door are \$1.00. Be sure to purchase your reserved tickets now if you haven't already done so.

Spotlight on Sports

Harlan Vanden Einde

The Dordt Defenders enjoyed their first victory of the season by defeating Emmetsburg 63-49 on December 10, at the Sioux Center Auditorium. Although the Defenders got off to a poor start they came back to tie the score 24-24 at half time. During the second half the Defenders looked somewhat better and they outscored their opponents by 14 points. High point men for the Defenders were Roger De Stigter with 21 points followed closely by Mike Vander Pol with 15. High scorers for Emmetsburg were Hartman with 15 and Larson with 13.

On December 4, the Defenders suffered their fourth defeat of the season by falling to Worthington 77-63. The boys didn't seem to have any offensive punch, an this was the greatest factor in their defeat.

Letters to the Editor . . .

Dear Editor:

I would like to say something in regard to the article, "Amateur Hour," in the December 9, 1957 issue of the *Dordt Diamond*. In particular, to the part which reads, and I quote, "Many years of learning and faithful practice were represented in numbers given by some of the contestants, while other presentations took little practice on the part of the performers. There are some

who feel that the latter should not have entered the contest because there was no real artistry displayed and the judging was thus made exceedingly difficult."

This doesn't make much sense. In the first place, **originality** was used in the numbers which so-called "took little practice on the part of the performers." If originality displays "no real artistry", nothing does. Secondly, if all the contestants would have done something which they have been "learning and faithfully practicing for many years," the numbers would have been given to such a degree of excellence that the judging would be even more difficult. Thirdly, and logically, if these numbers are not permissible, you know what happens to amateur contests. They fall quite dead.

Ponder upon these things, please.

A reader

(Editors note: We welcome all letters to the editor, but all should be signed. Please state in the letter if you wish to remain anonymous.)

Christmas Vacation Begins . . .

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from California, who plans to visit spend her vacation in Edgerton, Minnesota.

The members of the *Dordt Diamond* wish you all a pleasant vacation and safe traveling.

Denver, Colorado, and Christine Posthuma, from California, who will

--EDITORIAL--

The angel who announced the birth of Jesus could have been sent to other individuals or groups of individuals; he was sent to a group of shepherds. These men were not wise in their own conceits nor proud in personal accomplishments. Men outside of the Jewish nation had no longing for a Messiah nor had they a line of David from which He was to be born. The Scribes and Pharisees had closed hearts and minds and would rather tell God than be told by Him. The message must be received and so the worldly wise and callous religious apostates are passed by.

But let us learn from this. The message that the angel had is a timeless message. It is a message for today. It must be received today! Furthermore the angel said, "For there is born to you a Saviour who is Christ the Lord." There must be a personal receiving and having of this Saviour.

The world today is not much interested in angels nor heavenly tidings. The world today is pre-occupied with self-satisfaction and self-glorification. Can we be and are we distinct and different from the world? Shall we this Christmas receive the message of the angel and God's unspeakable gift?

That depends. If we are humble, penitent, and praying, we shall experience a joy unbounded as the gift of God's Love is given unto us. If we are going to be busy having Christmas the world's way we shall be left with an aching void which the world can never fill.

May we all be able in this season to say with Simeon, "Mine eyes have seen Thy salvation."
—R.E.

THE TEMPER OF THE TIMES

Continued from first page)

creased industrialization, economic activities, world affairs, and crises, his duties have been increased during the past few years. These duties have been increasing to a great extent. Wouldn't it then be better for these duties to be divided and thus lessen the duties of each?

The most notable suggestion and the probable solution is that some sort of law will be introduced and passed which will cover a President's disability.

One law suggested is that a President should willingly resign if the President becomes disabled, and following that, the Vice President would immediately take over the presidency.

Another suggestion is that each President, upon taking office, should take a complete physical examination, and on the basis of these reports Congress would decide whether or not the President was capable of taking office.

Still others have suggested that the President himself should decide whether or not he was capable of holding office.

These are just a few suggestions which have been offered. Which of these suggestions do you think will most effectively solve the problem? Do any of you have any better suggestions? If so, write your Congressman or verse your comments in our school paper. We'll appreciate it if you do so.